

Chris's Reordering Blog – Weeks 11 and 12, 14 to 25 August



I was expecting to be able to report that the Porch Lantern was in place and have some pictures available by now. Sadly, there has been a delay in manufacturing the toughened glass double-glazed units for it. Hopefully I will have more to report next time. Here you can see the opening now made in the roof. You can just see the wooden frame that will hold the glass leaning up against the wall in the Porch below.



In the next picture, you can see the point of the arch between the Porch and the Nave whereas previously more than 300mm, (12"), was totally obscured by the ceiling. At the very top of the picture, you can just see the plywood cover which has a tarpaulin over it to protect it against the weather until the job can be finished.



With the opening completed you can really get a feeling of how much lighter the Porch will become once the work is finished.

The electricians have been on site this last week carrying out the 'first-fix' of the lighting and power cables. This picture shows them just starting work. The power cables are being placed in the ducts in the floor and most of the lighting cables will be hidden on top of the beam at the point where the barrel vault roof springs from the walls. You can just see the beams at the very top of the picture. This is where they were placed previously.



Here you can see the cables in the under-floor ducts including, in the thin white tubing, the hearing aid loop system. The plaster on the south wall of the Nave was coming away from the walls beneath and this has meant that a long section of it has



had to be removed and will be resurfaced with lime plaster. It was important that this work was completed before the stone floor was laid.

This picture shows the brickwork where the entrance into the Nave through the bell tower used to be. I'm not completely sure, but I believe that this was closed up as part of the 1857 reordering. Where the electricians have been chasing out the plaster to fit cables to switches we can once again see the poor quality of some of the Victorian work underneath.



Last time I was hoping that the stone tiles would be delivered on Monday 21st but the stone did not arrive from the quarry until Wednesday last, 23rd. This delay together with the need to complete the plaster removal before starting work on the floor has meant that this work is now a few days

behind schedule. The pallets of stone were dropped off in the compound in the car park and had to be brought up into the nave using a fork-lift trolley. This picture shows them all now safely in the Nave.

This week a section of the floor in the North Aisle will be laid and if the architect is happy with the result then the contractor can carry on and complete the work. It will be towards the end of September before this work will be finished.

Chris Young – 28 August 2017